

# THE ATHENS POST.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENN., FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1850.

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## THE POST.

ATHENS, FRIDAY, JAN. 18, 1850.  
FROM WASHINGTON.

We are now looking for the responses of the Legislative bodies in the Northern States, to the resolutions of the State Legislature of the South, on the subject of slavery. The message of Governor Fish, of New-York, now commands attention, because he is supposed to represent the sentiments, not only of the Whig party of New-York, but also a very large portion of the Democratic party of the Empire State. It commands attention, also, because New-York is the most populous of the States, and the most influential of all the Northern States; a State too, which tolerated slavery, until within some twenty years, and whose earlier settlers, the Dutch, are entitled to the credit, for being the first importers of slaves from Africa into the American colonies. Governor Fish's message is moderate in its tone, but it claims, on political grounds, an exclusion of slavery from Northern Mexico, and other portions of Northern America, and it asserts that the people of the Empire State, are opposed to the extension of slavery into the newly acquired territories. The message in fact asserts, that under no circumstances will the assent of the people of New-York be given, to the extension of slavery into these territories, from which it is now excluded. I have no doubt that similar sentiments, and in a manner less conciliatory, will be expressed by all the Northern Legislatures.

But it is to be noticed that no Governor of a Northern State, and no Legislature of a Northern State will undertake to say, that slavery is to be abandoned in the District of Columbia, or that the internal traffic in and transportation of slaves should be prohibited, or that the constitutional provision for the arrest and recovery of fugitive slaves shall be annulled.

The prospect is, that Congress will not legislate at all, upon these subjects, at this session.—*Cor. Char. Contr.*

**FOREIGN COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION OF THE UNITED STATES.**—By the report of the Register of the Treasury for the last fiscal year, it is shown that the value of goods and wares imported into the United States for the last year, ending 30th of June, was \$147,857,457. The exports amounted to the large sum of \$145,755,820. The domestic exports alone reached the sum of \$132,666,955. Our exports to England amounted to \$69,161,992, or nearly one-half of the entire exports of the country. Two-thirds nearly of this amount were exported in American vessels. In addition to this, we sent to Scotland exports in value \$3,549,960. Ireland \$3,916,342. British East Indies \$332,962. British Guinea \$662,415. British West Indies nearly four millions. British American Colonies three millions and a half, so that our export trade with the countries, of Great Britain and dependencies amounts to over eighty-four millions of dollars. To the British West Indies the exports are almost entirely in American vessels, to the British colonies one third, and to Canada more than one-half. Our exports to France reached \$12,000,000, of which over ten millions were in American vessels. Our exports to the Island of Cuba stand third on the list, and amount to the sum of \$4,641,145. Our exports to Holland, the Hanse towns and Belgium, amount to more than \$7,000,000. The tables will be found full of information upon this subject, and very interesting. They show the high degree of commercial prosperity which the United States enjoys, and the extent which our agriculture and manufacturers contribute to it.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

A man at breakfast lately, sat a long time after the others were done. "You're a great while at breakfast," said his impatient friend. "You don't expect me to eat that beef-stake in a moment do you?" was the reply.

## MR. COBB AND THE COMMITTEES.

The Washington correspondent of the N. York Tribune, has the following statement in reference to the dissatisfaction felt by Mr. Cobb's friends, in relation to the organization of some of the Committees:—"The Speaker of the House of Representatives has created more dissatisfaction among his own party friends from the South, in the formation he has given several of his Committees, than has yet been expressed by any of the Whigs."

The appointment of three notorious Abolitionists, Giddings, Allen and Root, on the three important committees of the Judiciary, Territories and District of Columbia, surprised us not a little, and we have been patiently waiting to see what the organs of the democracy at the South, who have been so vociferous in their affected devotion to the South, would say on the subject. But as yet, no murmuring of discontent has escaped them—some even of the most blustering, have expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the constitution of the committees.

This is not at all strange to us, for we have long been satisfied that these brawling demagogues only sought to make political capital out of the slavery question; hence any act performed by a Democrat must be acquiesced in silently if not approvingly; while if a Whig had been guilty of the same act, the thunders of their denunciations would reverberate through the country for months. No term of imitative or reproach would be too strong to have been applied to a Whig Speaker who had constituted those committees as Mr. Cobb has.

It may be that the intelligent men of the South may be galled yet a little longer with the hypocritical professions of these demagogues, who affect such devotion to their rights and institutions, but we greatly mistake the tone of public sentiment if their career is not a short one.

**THE FREE BANKING SYSTEM.**—The State of Tennessee, it would seem, is about to adopt the Free Banking system, now in operation in this State. The outline of the system is stated as follows:

An association of persons, or a single one, purchases \$100,000 or more of State stock. This is deposited with a Commissioner or Comptroller, appointed for the purpose, who shall cause to be engraved and printed at the expense of the party applying, notes of the nature of bank notes to the amount of said stock, (in some projects only 90 per cent. of such stock,) countersigned by himself, and to be signed by the officers of the bank where the same are payable. Then follow various provisions of security. The advantages to the banker is as follows: He draws his interest on the State stock deposited, say 5 per cent., and loans out the notes based on this stock at 6 or 7 per cent.—sufficient to bear expenses of banking house, officers, &c.—The security to the note holder is, that the Comptroller will be always able to pay the whole issue in State or U. S. stock, the law so guarding it as to prevent a greater issue than is provided for by it. This system, while it is the most safe of any yet devised for the note holder, is more profitable to the banker, and more beneficial to the country, by making the State stock a safe circulating currency capital for the business of the people. The Tennessee bill provides a payment of 25 cents on every \$100, for school purposes in lieu of every other State tax.

**MISSION OF THE WHIG PARTY.**—We copy the following sentiments, which are as just as they are happily expressed, from the Ogdensburg Forum:

"The mission of the Whig party is identified with the high hopes and aspirations of the great intellects of the age. It embraces those thoughts and sentiments which burn in the bosom of patriots and philanthropists. Improvement, 'Ecclesia,' is their motto. They seek to develop the natural resources of our soil, to facilitate social intercourse and commerce by improvements in communications; to promote the advancement of skill and industry by suitable protection and encouragement; to expand the human mind by ample facilities for acquiring knowledge and the protection of his rights in life, liberty and property. And, fellow-citizens, are not these objects worthy of your serious regard and attention—worthy of the name you inherit—of the ancestry you boast? If they are, give them your support, and let it not be said that any personal disappointments or private griefs have alienated or even cooled the ardor of a Whig elector."

We saw a chap on Thursday morning, a slender, dangling, pale face boy, about 10 years of age, standing inside a sugar hogshead, hands in pocket, and licking the sides of the hogshead. He took it decidedly cool, not caring for passers-by, so that he was not molested. He was one of 'em.—*Lou. Dem.*

## "COME AND LET US REASON TOGETHER."

I take no part in the general question of the relative claims of either of the three sections of the State. My purpose is to show that it is the duty of all to aid each other, that they have a common interest, and that instead of creating burdensome taxation, a judicious system of internal improvement will increase the wealth and resources of the State. I have made East Tennessee my study, and proposed to illustrate my views in reference to that section, because the same facts are, to some extent, applicable to Middle and West Tennessee. If their productions are not the same, the same facts are more or less applicable to the condition of each.

The agricultural products of East Tennessee, suited to a foreign market, are chiefly corn, wheat, beef and pork. The returns of the census of 1840 give as the annual product 10,292,078 bushels of corn; 1,341,713 bushels of wheat; 213,175 neat beef cattle, and 733,192 hogs. If we assume that a railroad would add ten cents per bushel to the price of corn and wheat, five dollars per head to the price of hogs, it would give us the annual increased value of those four articles alone, the sum of \$2,553,146 10.

The last census shows that there were in East Tennessee 214,259 persons. If we assume that there are now in East Tennessee 250,000 persons capable of employment, and that for the want of the stimulus which our railroad would give to their industry, these 250,000 are idle but twenty-five days in the year, and that their labor is worth but fifty cents per day, it gives \$3,125,000 as their loss for want of employment. If to this be added the \$2,553,146 10, the increased value of corn, wheat, beef and pork, it gives the sum of \$5,678,146 10 as the amount of the annual loss of the people of East Tennessee, on these five items alone—to wit:

On Corn,	\$1,029,078
On Wheat,	134,171 39
On Beef,	1,065,875 00
On Pork,	733,192 00
For want of employment	3,125,000 00
	\$5,678,146 10

I know that such large sums startle the reader, and that but few will admit my premises when they see the results—my purpose is to elicit enquiry, and large as these sums are, and startling as these premises may at first appear, I promise to give facts, incontrovertible facts, convincing the judgment of the most incredulous. I intend to compare East Tennessee as she is, with East Tennessee as she may be, by contrasting her products as given in the census of 1840, with those of other States, the industry of which has been stimulated by remunerating prices. Thus the product of the dairy from 238,670 Cattle in Connecticut \$1,376,531 38 1/4 " Vermont 2,408,737 32 1/2 " Maine 1,490,912 27 1/2 " N Hampshire 1,638,543 28 1/2 " Massachusetts 2,673,329

While 213,175 Cattle in East Tennessee gave but \$75,750 as the product of her dairy.

Now why was this? Is it because the people of East Tennessee have less energy, less industry, or less talent than the people of Connecticut, Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire or Massachusetts? Or is it not because those States have a market which stimulates their industry which East Tennessee has not and cannot have without her railroad? Look on this picture. Does it not startle more than the \$5,678,146 10 in the first part of this communication. Here you will see that the product of the dairy alone in these five States was \$8,874,015. Does not this fact go far to sustain my estimates, when East Tennessee had as the product of her dairy but \$75,750? Why is this? Does it not show that there is something wrong and is not that something the want of a market which our railroad would give.

PHILADELPHIA, JAN. 4

Last night, about half past nine o'clock, as the car containing the Southern Mail was proceeding to Gray's Ferry, where the Baltimore train takes the locomotive, a bold attempt was made to murder the driver and rob the mail. At the "Prime street Curve," corner of Broad and Prime streets, in West Moyamensing, a party of villains attacked the car. The driver was struck at upon his seat with a bludgeon which broke the lamp to pieces. He was then fired at by a pistol, several bullets going through his hat, and others entering the car. The report of the pistol frightening the horses, they started at a rapid speed, and the driver thus got clear of the desperate assassins.—He could plainly see two of the robbers when the attack was made.

**GUILTY CONSCIENCE RIGHTED.**—Tazewell S. Morton, of Petersburg, Va., acknowledged the receipt of a letter post marked Richmond, Va., 29th November, which has written in it, "This is Yours," containing bank bills for \$408.

## THE EVENTS OF 1849.

BY HORACE GREELY.

A year of disaster and gloom is departing—of pestilence and death at home; of calamity and discomfiture abroad. The hopes of Europe's emancipation from the fetters of her tyrants and aristocracy, but lately so glad and glowing, have been quenched in agony and blood, as Sicily, Sardinia, Rome, France, Western Germany and Hungary have yielded successively to the arts of the bayonets of the foes of freedom, until despotism waves its dreary sceptre over the most powerful continent of earth, and does nothing but the petty cautions of Switzerland that kneels not before its throne. It seems but yesterday that Paris, Berlin, Frankfurt, Vienna, Pesth and Rome, were the capitals of virtual if not acknowledged republics, and all Europe on the eminent verge of deliverance from the wrongs and abuses which have so long bowed her millions to the dust; and now all is changed as if by some demonic enchantment. France, the natural enemy of the new democracies, has been dragged by sorceries too monstrous for belief, and made to perpetrate the direct assassination of one of her sister republics, while standing by and consenting to the overthrow of all the rest. The spirit of Liberty, hunted out of Italy and Germany, has for a while stood at bay on the banks of the Danube and the Rhine, and for a brief, glad moment, it was hoped that her foes would be repelled. Fond, vain illusion! the oppressors are strong and united, while the oppressed are feeble, chaotic and justly. The fruits of ages of toil and of toil and parsimony have been garnered, not by the industrious and frugal, but by their robbers, and now serve to hire and arm the minions of despotism to slaughter and crush their brethren.

Overborne in the unequal struggle, Hungary falls, and Europe is enshrouded in midnight gloom. Only on the narrow crests of the Alps can the dove of Liberty now find rest for the sole of her foot; and who shall say that even these crests may not be covered by the rising, deluge? For the rights of man in Europe there is hope in God alone.

**THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.**—The National Intelligencer, in a spirited article on the election of Mr. Cobb Speaker of the House of Representatives, says:

In regard to the gentleman who has at last been placed in the responsible and arduous post of presiding officer of the House of Representatives—since he has heretofore played no very prominent part in the proceedings of the House, and is of course not as widely known as some other members—it may be acceptable to distant readers to learn something of his personal character and fitness for the elevated trust to which he has been called. We beg, therefore, to state that Mr. Cobb is a gentleman of unexceptionable private character, of a good presence, and of fair talents, that, having been a member of the House for four years, and with much occasional experience in the duties of Chair, he is already well versed in the rules of order, and will, we doubt not, fill the office of Speaker respectfully, efficiently, and creditably.

In short, we may say, that had it devolved on the Whig members of the House to select a Speaker from the opposite party, it is quite probable that a majority of them, would have chosen Mr. Cobb; and this, we think, is saying in a word everything that can be expected from adversaries touching his fitness, his fairness and patriotism. It is not equal to some whom we have heretofore seen occupy that high station, he is superior to others, and with the eminent example of his immediate predecessor before him, the public may, we think, anticipate from the new Speaker the exhibition of every reasonable degree of impartiality in administering the duties of the Chair; indeed, if we take the circumstances of his election in connection with his own professions from the Chair, we feel authorized to look for a much larger measure of liberality from Mr. Cobb in the performance of his high duties than under other circumstances we should be justified in expecting from a Speaker of strong Democratic bias.

A woman named Rachel Sharpe, has lately been tried at Salem for the murder of her child, and although she confessed over and over again that she was guilty, some of the Jury would not believe her, and being unable to agree was discharged.

Chicago is said to be the largest beef-packing market in the Union. The amount already packed there this year is reported at 50,000 beef cattle having been killed in the last seven weeks.

During the past year there have been erected in Washington D. C., seventy-four brick and one hundred and ten wooden buildings, making a total of 184. The number of dwellings now in the city is estimated at 6,322, and the population at 37,932.

## THE PRESS.

SUNG AT THE PRINTERS' FESTIVAL, BOSTON.

Let monarchs revel while they may,  
And drain their goblets bright;  
No hearts so free or gay as we,  
On this our festive night:  
We need no regal pageant here,  
No banners wreathed with fame—  
For brighter far, our trophies are,  
Our history and our name.

Each printer lives himself a King,  
A monarch in his might,  
And Throne and Crown must topple down,  
When he is in the Right.  
And when the world his banner waves  
Where Freedom's song is told,  
The Printed Page—the Truths of Age,  
And glorious Song of old!

High honor to the noble Art!  
By far the brightest gem  
That ever shone in lustrous hue  
From Freedom's diadem!  
E'en now it gleams the guiding star,  
Far distant o'er the wave,  
Where millions fight to gain the right  
Of Freedom, or a grave.

Then Brothers, let our Daily Toil  
Be sung in festal strains!—  
While blades shall sing or weapons ring  
On earth's wide battle-plain,  
Or while one Tyrant's throne is left  
For truth to trample down,  
Our mystic Art will bear its part  
Of glory and renown!

**THE ODD FELLOWS.**—The Washington Globe thus bears testimony to the great increase and noble mission of Odd Fellowship:

"We believe that in the whole history of the world, there is no instance of any society of men, united by power, wealth, or political influence, who have from an humble beginning, risen so rapidly to be both numerous and opulent, as the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The fact is itself an eulogium on the Order—on its objects, its conduct, and its administration. The great aim of it is to do good, and the only aim we believe. To comfort the sorrow-stricken, to heal the sick, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, and to relieve the necessitous, are the cardinal purposes for which Odd Fellowship was instituted. So far it has nobly fulfilled its mission, and its success has far exceeded everything that could have been anticipated. Everywhere the Odd Fellows are erecting noble buildings called halls, which are not built for show altogether, but for use, and they are made useful always, we believe."

**THE WEBSTER CASE.**—In speaking of the alleged murder of Dr. Parkman by Prof. Webster, the Albany Evening Journal has the following remarks:

The Coroner's inquest elicited testimony which bears hard upon the accused. Among other things, it was shown that a unit of hair grew on one of Dr. Parkman's shoulders. And strangely, or providentially, among the fragments of the body found, was a shoulder with this unusual mark!—The tea chest in which parts of the body were found in tankard, was brought from Prof. Webster's house on the Tuesday following the murder. The anonymous note written to a friend of Dr. Parkman, directing attention another way, is found to match with part of a sheet from which it was torn, remaining in Prof. Webster's room. A witness entirely reliable, walking behind Prof. Webster between Boston and Cambridge, saw him drop a paper so mysteriously that he intended to pick it up when he came to the spot, but another person coming along first, picked it up and walked off without saying anything. That paper was the check which had been paid to Dr. Parkman for rent!

How true it is that "murder, though it hath no tongue, speaks with miraculous organs."

**A RECENT.**—Whenever you get a black eye by a fall on the ice, or from running against a bad post, or from running against a powerful fist, apply a cloth wrung out of very warm water and renew it until the pain ceases. The moisture and heat liquifies the blood, and sends it back to its proper channel. Use warm or hot but never cold water to the bruise. A doctor would charge a guinea for this advice; we give it gratis.—*Ec. Pa.*

**A VOICE FROM THE SOUTH.**—The Southern Banner, at Athens, Georgia, contains a copy of the California State Constitution, accompanied with this sensible remark:—"We have nothing to say for or against the anti-slavery clause in their Constitution. That is their concern, not ours."

**A HARD HIT.**—The Albany Dutchman perpetrates the following hard hit at tobacco chewers:

"A chemist in New York has just invented a substitute for tobacco. It is made of guano, and will doubtless soon supersede the weed, as it is just as nasty, and a good deal cheaper."

## THE BEGGAR AND THE BANKER.

"Do you take notice that God has given me a soul and body, just as good for all the purposes of thinking, eating, drinking, and taking my pleasure as he has you, and then you may remember Dives and Lazarus, as we pass. Then again, it is a free country, and here, too, we are on an equality; for, you must know, that here even a beggar's dog may look a gentleman in the face, with as much indifference as he would a brother. You and I have the same common master; are equally free, live equally easy; are both traveling the same journey, bound to the same place, and both have to die and be buried in the end."

"But," observed the Banker, interrupting, "do you pretend there is then no difference between a beggar and a banker?"

"Not in the least," rejoined the other, with the utmost readiness; "not in the least, as to essentials. You swagger and drink wine, in company of your own choosing; I swagger and drink beer, which I like better than your wine, in company which I like better than your company. You make thousands a day, perhaps; I make a shilling; if you are contented, I am; we're equally happy at night. You dress in new clothes; I am just as comfortable in old ones, and have no trouble in keeping them from soiling. If I have less property than you, I have less to care about. If fewer friends, I have less friendship to lose; and if I do not make as great a figure in the world, I make a great shadow on the pavement; I am as great a man as you. Besides, my word for it, I have fewer enemies, meet with fewer losses; carry as light a heart, and sing as merry a song as the best of you."

"But then," said the Banker, who had all along been trying to get in a word, "is the contempt of the world nothing?"

"The envy of the world is as bad as its contempt; you have, perhaps, the one, and I a share of the other. We are matched there too. And beside, the world deals in this matter equally unjustly with us both. You and I live by our wits, instead of living by our industry; and the only difference between us in this particular, worth naming, is, that it costs society more to maintain you than it does me. I am content with a little; you want a great deal. Neither of us raise grain or potatoes, or weave cloth, or manufacture anything useful; we therefore add nothing to the common stock; we are only consumers; and if the world judge with strict impartiality, neither of us seems to me I should be pronounced the cleverest fellow."

Major Noah says that an Abolitionist was lately making a great parade of the fact that a negro is "a man and a brother." "Why," cried a poor white man standing near, "you wouldn't acknowledge me as a brother, nor shake hands with me in the street the other day, though I am the son of one of your tenants!" The Abolitionist smiled. Facts were not wanted. It was sentiment that he could pile up to any height.

He who hates his neighbor is miserable himself and makes all around him feel miserable.

A young Miss having accepted the offer of a youth to gallant her home, afterwards learning that jokes might be cracked at her expense if the fact should become public, dismissed him when about half way, enjoining his secrecy. "Don't be afraid," said he, "of my saying anything about it, for I feel as much ashamed of it as you do."

The following truthful sentences are from the pen of a well-known author. They refer to the proper distinctions of society, and are as pointed as true.

"No distinction should be made but that arising from moral character; and this, in our country, should be the only principle of caste or rank in society." \* \* "Learning and wealth may polish and decorate a base demagogue, or a splendid villain."

"TAIN'T LIKE."—A certain lawyer had his portrait taken in his favorite attitude—standing with one hand in his pocket. His friends and clients all went to see it, everybody exclaimed—

"Oh, how like! it's the very picture of him."

An old farmer only dissented—"Tain't like!"

"Tain't—no tain't!" responded the farmer.

"Don't you see, he has got his hand in his own pocket; 'twould be as like again if he had it in somebody else's."

**DEFINITION OF DARKNESS.**—A blind Ethiopian in a dark cellar at midnight, looking for a black cat.

They have a man in Mississippi so lean that he makes no sign of w at all. A rattlesnake strikes at his leg six times in vain, and retired in disgust. He makes all hungry who look at him; and when children meet him in the street, they run home crying for bread.